

0840Z 02 APR 60

TOP SECRET**OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE**

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IN 22025

25X1

DIRECTOR

OPS (1,2,3,4)

S/C (5)

RR

TOR: 0840Z 02 APR 60

PRITY

02/0550Z

REF (OTT 64134) (NOT SENT)

1. THERE WAS NO APPRECIABLE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN FUEL PLOTS AND HANDBOOK CURVE. [REDACTED] BEGAN DESCENT EARLY DUE RAPID DROP IN OXYGEN THEREFORE ELAPSED TIME AND HICONE FIGURES NOT AVAILABLE. PREDICTED FIGURES WERE: (A) START DESCENT 8:57, 195 GAL (B) HICONE 9:17, 150 GAL.

2. OXYGEN DEPLETION MSN 6050 DUE TO LODGING OF PLASTIC PARTICLES FROM FLIGHT FEEDING DISPENSER UNDER FLAPPER VALVE OF FACE PIECE FEEDING ORIFICE. CONDITION CREATED IMPROPER SEATING OF FLAPPER VALVE AND CONSEQUENT RAPID LOSS OF SHIP OXYGEN SUPPLY. LEAK COMMENCED IMMEDIATELY AFTER REMOVAL OF DISPENSER FROM FACE PIECE. THIS IS FIRST EXPERIENCE WITH PLASTIC PARTICLES BUT SIGNIFICANT LEAKS OFTEN EXPERIENCED IN FEEDING ORIFICE WHEN RESIDUAL FOOD ON DISPENSER O.D. IS DEPOSITED ON FLAPPER VALVE SEAT IN PROCESS OF REMOVING DISPENSER FROM FEEDING ORIFICE.

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[REDACTED] IN 22025

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3. PILOT ADVISED THAT DISPENSER REMOVAL WAS DIFFICULT DUE TO BINDING AND REMOVAL BY FORCE OF BOTH HANDS WAS NECESSITATED.

4. LOCAL FIX:

A. DISPENSERS BEING HAND SHAPED TO FACILITATE ORIFICE TRAVEL.

B. PLASTIC PLUG SAME DIAMETER AS FEEDING ORIFICE HAS BEEN TIED TO EACH FACE PIECE LATCH STRING FOR ORIFICE INSERTION AFTER FEEDING.

5. ALL FEEDING ORIFICES INSIDE FACE PIECE ARE CHAMFERED.

6. AS LEAK WAS OUTBOARD OF HELMET AND PILOT DESCENDED SAFE ALTITUDE PRIOR DEPLETION OF OXYGEN, HYPOXIA NOT SUSPECTED OR REPORTED AND POST HYPOXIA SYMPTOMS NOT OBSERVED.

7. RECOMMEND:

A. INFO PLASTIC PLUG FIX BE PASSED TO OTHER UNITS. PLASTIC PLUGS ARE OBTAINED FROM VALVE L.P. OXYGEN FILLER, [REDACTED] AN-6024-5 (SHIPPING DUST PLUG).

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B. FEEDING DISPENSER TUBE BE MORE SECURELY ATTACHED TO DISPENSER CAP.

C. FEEDING DISPENSER TUBE BE MADE OF MORE RESILIENT PLASTIC.

D. FEEDING TUBE O.D. TO TAPER FROM 1/32" GREATER DIAMETER THAN FACE ORIFICE TO 1/16" SMALLER THAN ORIFICE AT INSERTION END.

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8. REF [REDACTED] (21924) AND [REDACTED] (IN 21968) [REDACTED] IS IN COMMISSION.

25X1

END OF MESSAGE

TOP SECRET

THE FEEDING TUBE
+ ORIFICE SHOULD
BE U.R'D.
[Signature]